GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1198
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
FOREIGN FUNDS FOR FORESTRY
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to seek foreign funding for forestry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated a National Forestry Action Programme for increasing the forest cover in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests have formulated National Forestry Action Programme (NFAP), a comprehensive strategic plan for the next twenty years to increase the forest cover in the country to the desired 33% as mandated in the National Forest Policy, 1988. It is estimated that Rs.133903 crores would be required in the next twenty years for implementation of National Forestry Action Programme. The various components of the NFAP are as follows:

1. Protection of Existing Forest Resources
2. Improvement of Forest Productivity.
3. Reduction of Total Demand
4. Strengthening of Policy and Institutional Framework
5. Expanding Forest Area.

The availability of internal resources for forestry sector is inadequate. External assistance is sought in the forestry sector for augmenting the insufficient resource availability from internal resources. There has been flow of external funding for implementation of forestry projects in the country. So far 16 projects have been implemented in 14 States. Presently, 16 State-Sector and 2 Central Sector externally aided projects are under implementation in forestry sector. In addition, 12 projects have been formulated for external funding.